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1948

# ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

ROMSEY & STOCKBRIDGE  
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL



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Medical Officer of Health

to the

ROMSEY & STOCKBRIDGE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

To the Chairman and Members of the Romsey and Stockbridge  
Rural District Council.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my Report for the year 1948.

## SECTION A.—Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area (Acres)...	...	...	...	83,672
Population (as estimated by the Registrar General)				23,630
Rateable Value	...	...	...	£125,181
Sum represented by a 1d. rate		...	...	£593/18/8
Number of Council Houses		...	...	488

### Vital Statistics.

Live Births.	M.	F.	Total	
Legitimate	190	189	379	} Birth rate per 1,000 estimated population 17.4
Illegitimate	14	19	33	
Still Births.				
Legitimate	5	2	7	} Rate per 1,000 live and still births 16
Illegitimate				
Deaths	118	103	221	Death rate per 1,000 estimated population 9.3
Number of women dying in or in consequence of child birth				} From Sepsis 0 From other causes 0

Infantile Mortality—Death rate of infants under 1 year of age.

All infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	36
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	...	36
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	...	...	30
Death from Cancer all ages	...	...	...	37
Deaths from Measles	...	...	...	0
Deaths from Whooping Cough	...	..	...	0
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2)	...	...	...	0

The death rate is low and the birth rate is about average.

Of all causes of death, Heart Disease accounted for 58, Cancer 37, Cerebral Hæmorrhage 27, Tuberculosis 7, Pneumonia 5 and Bronchitis 10.

The number of deaths from Cerebral Hæmorrhage is above the average and the deaths from the other diseases are about average.

It is very difficult to assess the standard of physical health of the children from year to year as so many unknown factors are involved, but judging from the general impression gained through examining the children in the same schools and welfares over a period of many years, it appears that the health of the children is now being stabilised at slightly lower level than pre-war. The school milk and meals have kept the standard for children from going lower.

The condition of the mothers is one that should cause some anxiety. The women look tired, appear to worry more about little things and do not appear to have enough reserve of energy to be able to discipline their children or have the same influence on the home life they previously had. Large numbers are unable to breast feed their children. They appear to be on the down grade and if this condition of the women continues it is likely to have far reaching effects.

## SECTION B.—General Provision of Health Services.

### (1) *Public Health Officers of the Authority.*

- (a) The Medical Officer of Health is also Medical Officer of Health of the adjoining Borough of Romsey and Assistant County Medical Officer.
- (b) The Sanitary Inspector is a whole time Officer.
- (c) The Assistant Sanitary Inspector is also a whole time Officer.

The accommodation available for the Public Health Staff is limited.

The two Sanitary Inspectors, a clerk and I share one small room.



(2) *Nursing in the Home.*

There is no nursing arrangement or contribution by the Local Authority.

(a) General by District Nurses.

(3) *Laboratory Facilities.*

The County Laboratory, The Castle, Winchester.

Emergency Public Health Laboratory, R.H.C. Hospital, Winchester.

(4) *Hospitals.*

**General** :—The Romsey and District Hospital, the Southampton Hospitals, Broadlands Annexe and the Royal Hants County Hospital are those principally used.

**Infections** :—Where cases cannot be satisfactorily nursed at home, they are admitted to the Salisbury and District Isolation Hospital and the Southampton Isolation Hospital.

*Small Pox.* Provision is made by the County Council.

*Tuberculosis.* Sanatoria and Dispensaries are provided.

*Maternity and Infant Welfare.* The County Council have centres at Wellow, Broughton, Houghton, West Tytherley, King's Somborne, Lockerley, Leckford, Stockbridge, Wallop, Nursling, Maybush, Mottisfont, North Baddesley and Romsey.

*Orthopædic.* Children from the area attend clinics at Eastleigh, Andover, Totton and Salisbury.

## SECTION E.—Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

### Sanitary Inspector's Report.

#### 5. *Water.*

(i) (a) Seventy-two samples of water from wells within the district were submitted for examination. Generally they were found to be satisfactory. Where, in some instances, samples were found to be unsatisfactory, the supply was chlorinated and the wells cleansed and in each case a satisfactory supply was eventually obtained.

One private piped supply was found to be bacteriologically unsatisfactory and was fitted with a drip-feed chlorination plant and is now satisfactory.

(b) There was no serious shortage of water.

(ii) The water supplied by the Southampton Corporation is examined and tested by that Authority.

(iii) There was no case of plumbo-solvent action.

(iv) The only contamination experienced was in shallow wells. These were cleansed and chlorinated and afterwards proved satisfactory.

(v) (a) The number of dwelling-houses supplied from Public Mains are as follows :—

Parish	Est. Number of Houses	Est. Population Served
Ampfield ... ..	204	887
Chilworth ... ..	140	582
Michelmersh ... ..	161	520
Millbrook ... ..	1263	3741
North Baddesley ... ..	324	1457
Nursling and Rownhams	385	1356
Romsey Extra .. ..	115	377
Frenchmoor ... ..	9	36

(b) There are no dwelling-houses supplied from stand-pipes.

#### 6. *Drainage and Sewerage*

No important extensions of sewers have been made during the year, but the Southampton Corporation have commenced laying sewers in the Parish of Millbrook, these first lengths being primarily intended for Council Houses in the course of erection by the Southampton Corporation on land acquired by that Authority within the Parish.

#### 7. *Meat and Other Foods.*

Food premises are inspected at least twice a year. These include retail meat shops, bakehouses, restaurants and other premises where food is prepared for sale. In addition to these inspections, several tons of food were examined and found to be unfit for human consumption at the Ministry of Food's Buffer Depot at Maybush in the Parish of Millbrook. A large proportion had been damaged by fire at a wholesale establishment in Southampton and a further quantity had been damaged by sea-water. The condemned food was dealt with by the Ministry of Food and either re-processed or used as animal food.

No slaughtering is undertaken in this area. Meat is delivered from slaughter-houses in Southampton, where it is inspected at the time of slaughter, but during the year 256lbs. of home-killed beef were found to be unfit for human consumption through bone-taint.

#### 8. *Food Poisoning Outbreaks.*

There were no outbreaks of Food poisoning during the year.

#### 9. *Factories.*

1. Inspections for purposes of Provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspector).

PREMISES (1)	M/c line No. (2)	No. on Register (3)	Number of :—		Occupiers pro- secuted (6)	M/c line No. (7)
			Inspect- ions (4)	Written Notices (5)		
(i) Factories in which Sec. 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	1	13	13	-	-	1
(ii) Factories not in- cluded in (i) in which Sec. 7 is en- forced by the Local Authority.	2	84	22	4	-	2
(iii) Other premises in which Sec. 7 is en- forced by the Local Authority (exclud- ing out-workers pre- mises). ..	3	-	-	-	-	3
<b>TOTAL ...</b>		97	35	4	-	

2. Cases in which defects were found.

PARTICULARS (1)	Number of Cases in which defects were :—						M/c line No. (8)
	M/c line No. (2)	Found (3)	Remedied (4)	Referred to H.M. Inspector (5)	Referred by H.M. Inspector (6)	Prose- cutions (7)	
Want of cleanliness (Sec. 1) ...	4	4	4	-	-	-	4
Overcrowding (Sec. 2) ...	5	-	-	-	-	-	5
Unreasonable temper- ature (Sec. 3) ...	6	-	-	-	-	-	6
Inadequate ventila- tion (Sec. 4) ...	7	-	-	-	-	-	7
Ineffective drainage of floors (Sec. 6)	8	-	-	-	-	-	8
Sanitary Convenien- ces (Sec. 7) :—							
(a) Insufficient ...	9	-	-	-	-	-	9
(b) Unsuitable or defective ...	10	-	2	-	2	-	10
(c) Not separate for sexes ...	11	-	-	-	-	-	11
Other offences (not including offences relating to out- work) ...	12	-	-	-	-	-	12
<b>TOTAL ...</b>	60	4	6	-	2	-	60



# OUTWORK (Sections 110 and 111)

SECTION 110					SECTION 111				
Nature of Work		M-c Line No.	Number out-workers Aug. list Sec. 110	Default in sending lists	Prosecutions failure to give lists	Instances work in faulty Premises	Notices served	Prosecutions	M-c. Line No.
(1)		(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
Wearing Apparel	Making, etc.	13	5	-	-	-	-	-	13
	Cleaning and Washing ...	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	14
Household Linen	...	15	-	-	-	-	-	-	15
Lace, Lace Curtains and Nets	...	16	-	-	-	-	-	-	16
Curtains and Furniture Hangings	...	17	-	-	-	-	-	-	17
Furniture & Upholstery		18	-	-	-	-	-	-	18
Electro-plate	...	19	-	-	-	-	-	-	19
File Making	...	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	20
Brass and Brass Articles		21	-	-	-	-	-	-	21
Fur Pulling	...	22	-	-	-	-	-	-	22
Iron and Steel Cables and Chains	...	23	-	-	-	-	-	-	23
Iron and Steel Anchors and Grapnels	...	24	-	-	-	-	-	-	24
Cart Gear...	...	25	-	-	-	-	-	-	25
Locks, Latches and Keys		26	-	-	-	-	-	-	26
Umbrellas, etc.	...	27	-	-	-	-	-	-	27
Artificial Flowers	...	28	-	-	-	-	-	-	28
Nets, other than Wire Nets	...	29	-	-	-	-	-	-	29
Tents	...	30	-	-	-	-	-	-	30
Sacks	...	31	-	-	-	-	-	-	31
Racquet & Tennis Balls		32	-	-	-	-	-	-	32
Paper Bags	...	33	-	-	-	-	-	-	33
The making of Boxes or other receptacles or parts thereof made wholly or partially of paper	...	34	-	-	-	-	-	-	34
Brush Making	...	35	-	-	-	-	-	-	35
Pea Picking	...	36	-	-	-	-	-	-	36
Feather Sorting	...	37	-	-	-	-	-	-	37
Carding, etc., of Buttons, etc.	...	38	-	-	-	-	-	-	38
Stuffed Toys	...	39	-	-	-	-	-	-	39
Basket Making	...	40	-	-	-	-	-	-	40
Chocolate & Sweetmeats		41	-	-	-	-	-	-	41
Cosaques, Christmas Crackers, Christmas Stockings, etc.	...	42	-	-	-	-	-	-	42
Textile Weaving	...	43	-	-	-	-	-	-	43
Lampshades	...	44	-	-	-	-	-	-	44
Total		70	5	-	-	-	-	-	70



## SECTION F.—Prevalence and control over Infections and Other Diseases.

There was a slight outbreak of Measles and Scarlet Fever. Twenty-eight cases of Scarlet Fever were notified and 11 were admitted to Hospital. There was one case of Gastro-Enteritis.

There were no cases of Diphtheria. One case was sent into Hospital for observation, but the diagnosis was not confirmed.

The number of children in the area who had completed a full course of Diphtheria Immunisation at any time up to 31st December, 1948 were as follows:—

under 1	128	} Total 2945
1	212	
2	215	
3	265	
4	260	
5—9	980	
10—14	889	

### NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (Other than Tuberculosis) During the year 1948.

Disease	Total Notified	Cases admitted to Hospital	Deaths
Scarlet Fever ...	28	11	-
Measles ...	80	-	-
Whooping Cough ...	25	1	-
Chicken Pox ...	7	1	-
Pneumonia ...	8	-	-
Erysipelas ...	4	-	-
Gastro-Enteritis ...	1	1	1
Ophthalmia ...	2	2	-
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	1	1	-

### CANCER.

Deaths :—Males 23, Females 14. Total 37.

### TUBERCULOSIS.

Cases notified and transfers :—

Pulmonary ..... Males 10, Females 9.  
Non-Pulmonary..... Males 1, Females 2.

Deaths :—Males 5, Females 2.

TABLE.

Causes of Death in Romsey and Stockbridge Rural District, 1948.

Cause of Death	M.	F.
Pulmonary T.B. ... ..	5	2
Syphilitic ... ..	2	1
Influenza ... ..	1	-
Cancer ... ..	23	14
Diabetes ... ..	1	1
Intra-Cranial ... ..	9	18
Heart ... ..	30	28
Other Circulatory ... ..	6	5
Bronchitis ... ..	7	3
Pneumonia ... ..	3	2
Other Resp ... ..	3	2
Appendicitis ... ..	1	-
Diarrhoea (under 2) ... ..	-	-
Other Digestive ... ..	2	2
Nephritis ... ..	1	2
Premature Birth ... ..	3	4
Congenital and Birth Injuries ... ..	3	1
Suicide ... ..	2	-
Road Traffic ... ..	2	1
Other Violent ... ..	4	1
All other causes ... ..	10	16
TOTAL ... ..	118	103

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

G. TATE,

*Medical Officer of Health.*





